

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list to a user of an application program of a computer system, comprising:

querying an operating system, by said application program upon start of said application program, whether one or more plug-in module is registered in a registry of an operating system, said one or more plug-in modules being capable of interfacing with corresponding respective ones of said one or more third party legacy data list;

receiving, from said one or more plug-in modules found in said registry, identifications of ones of said one or more third party legacy data list corresponding to said found one or more plug-in modules; and

providing a list of said identifications to said user through a user interface of said application program.

2. The method of providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

adding to said computer system one or more additional plug-in module capable of interfacing with one or more additional third party legacy data list; and

registering said one or more additional plug-in modules in said registry of said operating system, said application program being configured to find said one or more additional plug-in modules when said application program is started after said addition of said one or more additional plug-in modules.

3. The method of providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

allowing said user to select a selected one of said one or more third party legacy data list from said list of identifications; and

allowing said user to edit at least one datum of said selected one of said one or more third party legacy data list through an edit user interface of said selected one of said one or more third party legacy data list, said application program communicating with said selected

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1 one of said one or more third party legacy data list through corresponding one of said one or
2 more plug-in module.

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4 4. The method of providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list in
5 accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

6 allowing said user to select a selected one of said one or more third party legacy data
7 list from said list of identifications; and

8 allowing said user to access at least one datum of said selected one of said one or
9 more third party legacy data list through said user interface of said application program, said
10 application program communicating with said selected to said one of said one or more third
11 party legacy data list through corresponding one of said one or more plug-in module.

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13 5. The method of providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list in
14 accordance with claim 4, wherein:

15 said application program comprises a facsimile software; and

16 wherein said one or more third party legacy data list comprise one or more list of
17 names and telephone numbers stored using a legacy facsimile software.

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19 6. The method of providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list in
20 accordance with claim 4, wherein:

21 said application program comprises an e-mail software; and

22 wherein said one or more third party legacy data list comprise one or more list of
23 names and e-mail addresses stored using a legacy e-mail software.

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25 7. The method of providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list in
26 accordance with claim 4, wherein:

27 said application program comprises a personal organizer software; and

28 wherein said one or more third party legacy data list comprise one or more contact
29 information and appointment information stored using a legacy personal organizer software.

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8. A system for providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list to a user of a computer system, comprising:

one or more plug-in module, each of which being capable of interfacing with an associated one of said one or more third party data list, each of said one or more plug-in modules being registered in a registry of an operating system of said computer system; and an application program having a user interface, said application program upon starting being in communication with said operating system to query said registry to determine registered ones of said one or more plug-in module, said application program further configured to query each of said registered ones of said one or more plug-in modules for names of said one or more third party legacy data list, said application program being configured to provide a list of said names of said one or more third party legacy data list to said user through said user interface.

9. The system for providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list according to claim 8, further comprising:

an installer software configured to copy said one or more plug-in module to said computer system, said installer software further configured to registering said one or more copied plug-in modules in said registry of said operating system.

10. The system for providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list according to claim 8, wherein:

said user interface is configured to allow said user to select a selected one of said one or more third party legacy data list from said list of identifications.

11. The system for providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list according to claim 10, wherein:

said application program comprises a facsimile software; and

wherein said one or more third party legacy data list comprise one or more list of names and telephone numbers stored using a legacy facsimile software.

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12. The system for providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list according to claim 10, wherein:

said application program comprises an e-mail software; and
wherein said one or more third party legacy data list comprise one or more list of names and e-mail addresses stored using a legacy e-mail software.

13. The system for providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list according to claim 10, wherein:

said application program comprises a personal organizer software; and
wherein said one or more third party legacy data list comprise one or more contact information and appointment information stored using a legacy personal organizer software.

14. A computer readable storage medium on which is embedded one or more computer programs, said one or more computer programs implementing a method of providing an access to one or more third party legacy data list to a user of an application program of a computer system, said one or more computer programs comprising a set of instructions for:

querying an operating system, by said application program upon start of said application program, whether one or more plug-in module is registered in a registry of an operating system, said one or more plug-in modules being capable of interfacing with corresponding respective ones of said one or more third party legacy data list;

receiving, from said one or more plug-in modules found in said registry, identifications of ones of said one or more third party legacy data list corresponding to said found one or more plug-in modules; and

providing a list of said identifications to said user through a user interface of said application program.

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